

Tuesday
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redeyechicago.com

A Chicago Tribune
publication

★ **FREE** ★

JOSÉ M. OSORIO/
TRIBUNE FILE

MAKE LOVE, NOT WAR IN RELATIONSHIPS

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zeroes in on
Starbucks **8**

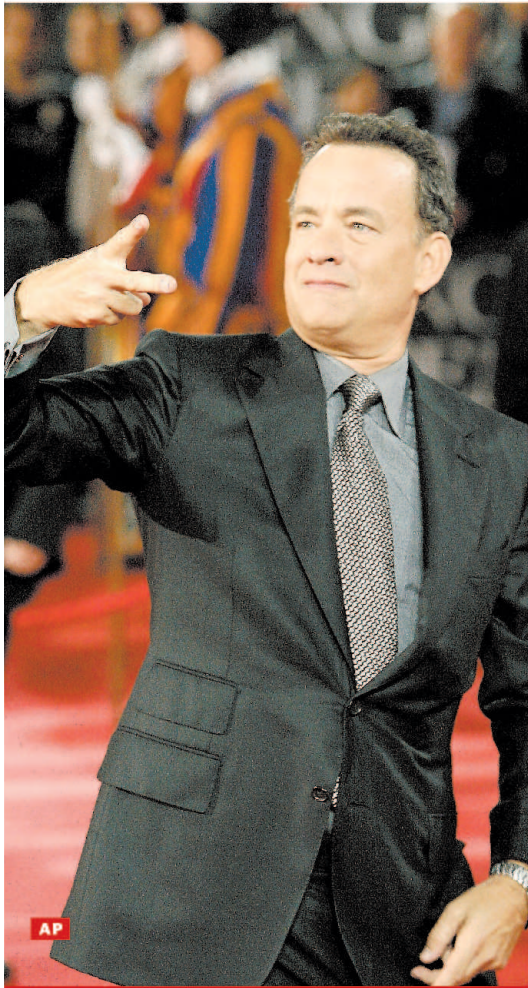
A taunt of two
cities: Chicago
vs. Vancouver **13**

metromix

New treats ripe
for the picking
at Green City **17**

FAIL

Fed up with the city's new parking deal?
You're not alone—inside the meter madness
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Aye, aye caption

Text us a funny caption for the photo (left) and we'll print the best in Wednesday's RedEye. To give it a shot, text the word "caption" followed by your brief caption and your name to **87708**. Good luck!

txtable

Celebrity twin

Do you look like a celebrity? Show us! Send your picture along with the name of the celeb who shares your style to **dlhernandez@tribune.com**. For Tuesday, we have Eric Turrin. Think he's a ringer for Ozzie Guillen? Text "twin" and the number of your opinion to **87708**. You'll get the poll results instantly.

1. Dead on

2. Way off



Turrin



Guillen

2do

To salsa

Celebrate Cinco de Mayo with a \$27 party package that includes beats from DJ George Perez, tapas, sangria and margaritas at Nacional 27 (325 W. Huron St.) from 6-9 p.m. Tuesday. Tickets are available at **n27chicago.com**.

To laugh

Standup comedian Sean Flannery of Chicago Underground Comedy performs a free show Tuesday at Beat Kitchen (2100 W. Belmont Ave.). Back doors open at 8:45 p.m.

To count down

Download the free Chicago 2016 iPhone application from the App Store to monitor the final 150 days until the International Olympic Committee selects a host city.

To donate

Visit **helpgrowyoursoup.com** and click "grow," and Campell's will give 50 tomato seeds to the National Future Farmers of America organization.



71 57

TODAY'S FORECAST

Consider this the calm before the storms



WED.
69
54
Stormy



THU.
76
57
A short break



FRI.
74
47
Storms are back



SAT.
58
42
Cooler and breezy

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*Does not apply for injectables. Some Restrictions May Apply.

TAX CODE CRACKDOWN

Obama’s plan to target loopholes could be tough sell in Congress

Associated Press

President Obama proposed Monday to raise taxes on the overseas profits of U.S. companies and to go after evaders who abuse off-shore tax shelters.

In announcing a series of steps aimed at overhauling the U.S. tax code, Obama complained that existing law makes it possible to “pay lower taxes if you create a job in Bangalore, India, than if you create one in Buffalo, New York.”

The proposal will be a hard sell in Congress. Sen. Max Baucus of Montana, chairman of the tax-writing Senate Finance Committee, offered a tepid response.

“Further study is needed to assess the impact of this plan on U.S. businesses,” said Baucus, a Democrat. “I want to make certain that our tax policies are fair and support the global competitiveness of U.S. businesses.”

The president said he wants to prevent U.S. companies from deferring tax payments by keeping profits in foreign countries rather than recording them at home and called for more transparency in bank accounts that Americans hold in notorious tax havens like the Cayman Islands.

“If financial institutions won’t cooperate with us, we will assume that they are sheltering money in tax havens and act accordingly,” Obama said.

During much of his long campaign for the White House, Obama campaigned for an



President Obama on Monday announces proposals that would target U.S. companies that abuse offshore tax shelters, saying his policy could generate \$21 billion a year in new taxes. AP

overhaul and simplification of the code. At the White House event Monday, he said his new proposals would generate an average of about \$21 billion a year in new taxes. That would amount to only about 2 percent of next year’s projected deficit of \$1.2 trillion, however.

Under his plan, companies would not be able to write off domestic expenses for generating profits abroad. The goal is to reduce the incentive for U.S. companies to base all or part of their operations in other countries.

Obama said the government also is hiring nearly 800 new IRS agents to enforce the U.S. tax code.

Congress is expected to resist significant portions of Obama’s plan.



Souter

IN OTHER NEWS

Meanwhile, Obama, eager to fill the Supreme Court vacancy left by Justice David Souter’s announced retirement by

early October, has begun calling senators who will play key roles in the confirmation process. Aides said he wants the process to move rapidly enough so that the Senate can confirm the person shortly after Congress returns from its August recess, if not sooner.

Survey: Norwegians just wanna have fun

Associated Press

The French are living up to their image as lovers of food and can add a new love to the mix, sleep, according to a survey released Monday. In fact, the French excel at the two leisure activities, spending more time at table and in bed than many other nations.

The Paris-based Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development looked at the use of leisure time among 18 of its 30 member countries.

Norwegians spend the most time at leisure, just over a quarter of their day, while at the low end, Mexicans spend just 16 percent of their time having fun.

The French still win in the sleeping and eating categories, spending on average nearly 9 hours a day in bed. For the French, leisure continues in the waking hours, with more than 2 hours a day spent eating and drinking—nearly twice as much time at the table as Americans, Canadians or Mexicans. Americans also like their sleep, spending some 8.5 hours a day doing just that.

PACKING ON THE POUNDS

Despite the moderate amount of time Americans spend eating each day—about an hour and a quarter—U.S. obesity rates are the highest in the 30-member OECD, with 34 percent of the population with a Body Mass Index over the critical 30 mark. The lowest obesity rates are found in Korea, followed by Japan, both of which clock in at the low end of the sleep spectrum as well.

REDEYE’S MONOLOGUE

Joke’s on us

Ever wonder where all those great jokes on the late night talk shows come from? Turns out, many are from freelance writers. So RedEye’s taking a page from that book, playing off the day’s news in our own monologue. Consider RedEye to be Jay Leno or David Letterman, but we’ll happily give you your 140 characters if your jokes stand out. Send us yours any time via Twitter at **@redeye** **chicago** and add hashtag **#redeyefake**. **SCOTT KLEINBERG, REDEYE**



ARE WE THERE YET? So are you wondering when this Trump Tower is finally gonna be finished? Well, the Tribune reports that

finishing touches are being put on the spire. Yep. The hair is next, followed by a huge delivery of gel.



Next on his list: stop Jenny McCarthy (above) from getting her own talk show. I mean, really? Jenny McCarthy?

WAIT! NO! A man believed to be the father of a girl from Malawi is reportedly trying to stop Madonna from adopting her.



flash. And in related news, on Souter’s last day they’re going to hear from Britney and Paris about those limo flashes. Hey-o!

NEWS FLASH: Bunch of boobs over at the Supreme Court. Seriously. The justices ordered an appeals court to consider reinstating the fine over Janet Jackson’s nipple

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RIDERS' BLOCK

Last week I began my pledge to ride every CTA bus line. I rode the No. 192-University of Chicago Hospitals Express and boiled my review down to 140 characters, the size of a Twitter tweet. Next up: the No. 125-Water Tower Express.

@tracyswartz

Ogilvie to U of C Goldblatt pavilion in 5 stops. southbound in a.m., northbound in p.m., <30 mins. accordion bus. scenic on LSD. no drama.

LOST: BOOKS

On April 28 at 1:30 a.m. at the Red Line Sheridan stop, I left my books on the platform bench. ... They are Uncle John's Bathroom Reader books, light funny trivia that I looked forward to.

—JILL DUMONT

'L' riders seeing Red—and Blue too

Independence Day is months away, yet there's been a lot of talk of red and blue in the "Going Public" inbox.

Armed with complaints, "Going Public" traveled to the Jackson station, where the Red Line meets the Blue Line, and asked a dozen riders of each line one question: If you could change one thing about this line, what would you change?

The top two complaints about the Red Line: Stations need to be cleaner and smell nicer and the line needs more trains. Eight of the dozen riders surveyed about the Blue Line complained about slow zones and construction.

Here are more rider woes about the Red and Blue Lines. So much for patriotism.

No Red carpet for Olympics

My boss is a VERY understanding man; however, the problems that plague the Red Line going to 95th Street are ridiculous and need to be addressed.

For the past week and a half I have been on the "L" when the doors will not close. [On Thursday] half the train doors failed to close, which caused me aggravation, and I'm sure others felt irritated as well. If Chicago wants the Olympics I'm sure a deciding factor in getting the games is to have reliable transportation—or is that a pipe dream?

—ASHLEY NOEL, 24, LAKEVIEW

Wall and grace

Wondering if the CTA has any plans on fixing the crumbling walls along the Red Line on the North Side. They are in terrible shape. I worry about driving/walking under them. If you don't believe me, just check out the track between the Lawrence and Argyle stops. Wall is crumbling along the east side, especially above Ainslie and Argyle Streets.

—JOSE GALARZA, 40, UPTOWN

Shut out?

To me, it seems the CTA is getting worse in the past year and a half. [On April 21] I saw the Blue Line for Forest Park pulling into the UIC Halsted stop, so I ran down to the platform. I got to the bottom and saw the doors had just closed. Literally, a foot away from the door, I looked at the conductor with his head still out the window looking straight at me. I wave and he sticks his head back into the train and pulls away.

Now, I just don't get it. He looked straight at me, so this really ticked me off! And it's certainly hard to miss my hair—it's purple.

—RACHAEL DUTENHAVER, 21, OAK PARK



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METER MAYHEM

The privatization of parking, which quadrupled rates, has led to confusion and lots of ticketing, driving Chicagoans crazy

Chicago Tribune

Professional photographer Cica Friedman got an unintentional snapshot of Chicago's troubled parking-meter system when she went looking for justice over a ticket that she's adamant she did not deserve.

For her effort, Friedman wasted part of a day and got slapped with a \$100 fine—double the original violation. Her problems started with a broken parking meter, she said.

Many other drivers also complain they are not beating the rap caused by bad tickets since City Hall turned over the management of about 36,000 parking meters to a private company in February. Problems have soared, ranging from jammed coin slots to inaccurate parking information posted on meters, to overzealous ticketing, drivers across the city said.

Meanwhile, at Chicago's quasi-courthouse at 400 W. Superior St. where parking meter cases are heard, business has been brisk ever since the city leased the meters for almost \$1.2 billion to Chicago Parking Meters LLC.

Friedman and other drivers interviewed in the past week while they tried to contest alleged meter violations complained that parking in the city—where meter rates quadrupled this year—is akin to spinning a roulette wheel.

Friedman told the administrative law officer handling her case last week that she scribbled a note explaining her three quarters were accepted by a parking meter on Roosevelt Road near a fabric store, but that no time had registered. She folded the note and stuffed it into the meter's coin slot, only to return from her shopping a short time later to find a ticket on her car, Friedman testified.

City law allows drivers to park at malfunctioning meters without risking a fine. But administrative law officer Robert Sussman found her liable for the ticket because Friedman failed to request a hearing within seven days of the alleged violation in February.

The missed deadline prevented Friedman from presenting her case, Sussman said. Friedman protested that in fact she immediately responded to contest the ticket. Did you send it by certified mail? Sussman asked, pointing out she would have had a postal receipt to show.

"I didn't know I needed to," Friedman

replied.

She also said she never received a notice that Sussman, reading from the case record, said was subsequently mailed to her home.

Finally, on April 27, Friedman said, she received a subsequent follow-up letter warning that she must pay the escalated fine—now \$100—by April 24. Friedman showed up at the hearing facility on April 27, but it was too late.

"I feel terrible because this is not fair," Friedman said outside the hearing room. "I have to pay \$100 for something that is not my fault. If I challenge the decision in [Cook County] Circuit Court, it will cost me \$97 to file the appeal, so what's the point?"

LAZ Parking, the management company hired by Chicago Parking Meters LLC, is responsible for repairing broken meters, like the one Friedman encountered, within two days of problems being reported. The company is now "at or very near to meeting that contractual requirement," said Ed Walsh, spokesman

for the Chicago Department of Revenue.

Returning to his car with seven minutes still registering on the meter's screen was apparently too late to spare Clifton Paige from the \$50 "expired meter" ticket placed on his Chevrolet Caprice, he told a hearing officer.

Paige, a truck driver who was laid off in February, said "the meter maid wrote the ticket ahead of time, assuming that I wouldn't get back to the meter before my time expired."

But administrative law officer Jerome Katz found Paige liable for the violation. Katz noted that Paige had previously arranged with the city to pay a backlog of parking tickets.

"They pretty much do what they want to do," Paige said outside the hearing room about the "judges," who actually are lawyers working for the city Department of Administrative Hearings, an independent agency created in 1997 to serve as a quasi-judicial tribunal for adjudicating municipal ordinance violations.

As he left the building and turned the corner

onto Hudson Avenue where his Caprice was parked at a meter, Paige's face stiffened when he realized yet another parking ticket was on his windshield. But there was no doubt about the violation this time: The meter flashed red, signaling no time left.

"I didn't have 25 quarters in my pockets to feed the meter enough," Paige said in disgust. "With all these tickets, at least I feel like I'm doing my part to help the city out of its deficit."

Not everyone leaves parking court with a frown, however. Taxi driver Susa Ljubisa is living proof.

The hearing officer who handed Ljubisa's case ruled that the cabbie should not have been ticketed in March for parking at a broken meter in the 2000 block of West Avenue.

"I put quarters in the meter, but it said 'FAIL,'" Ljubisa told the hearing officer, who voided the \$60 citation, based on a phone call that Ljubisa and possibly other drivers placed to the city to report the inoperable meter.





Clifton Paige of Chicago pulls a parking ticket off his car that he received while at 400 W. Superior St. contesting parking tickets.

MICHAEL TERCHA/TRIBUNE

Ticket mastery

Fight that ticket! The Tribune and Chicago parking blog theexpiredmeter.com offer these tips on how to beat the parking ticket blues—or the fine, anyway, and isn't that the most important thing?



Phone it in

Drivers who park at broken meters are advised to call 744-PARK, the city's 311 hot line or the LAZ Parking number listed on the meters, 877-242-7901. That phone call can be the basis for a successful defense.



Snap away

If you feel you've been wronged, go camera crazy. Photographic evidence, especially from the moment you discover the ticket on your windshield, can help prove your case in court.



Get nit-picky

Scrutinize your ticket for any info that might be incorrect—time and date of the alleged infraction, license plate number, meter number, car make and model, etc. Those kinds of errors could make the ticket toothless.

Company was ill-prepared for meter takeover

Chicago Tribune

LAZ Parking, a company that does business in 16 states and brings in more than \$200 million annually, was poorly prepared to take over Chicago's parking meters when the hand-off from the city took place on Feb. 13, the firm acknowledges.

It relied heavily on mall security guards and workers from a temporary job-placement agency—all with no experience in the parking industry—to reprogram the city's approximately 36,000 meters and change over the decals that provide drivers with rates and rules, company officials said.

But LAZ did not have nearly enough of the hand-held devices that shoot an infrared beam to reset the meters so that they provided the correct amount of time for each quarter inserted into the coin slot, according to workers hired for the task.

"The city has three types of meters," said a worker on the project who did not want to be identified. "We had plenty of devices to reprogram two kinds of meters, but not nearly enough for the last type. As a result, the new stickers being put on the meters did not match what many of the meters were charging."

LAZ found that many of the city's meters were inoperable because the 9-volt batteries that power the meters were dead, company officials said. But LAZ did not have an inventory of batteries to solve the problem.

"One day, I saw a supervisor hand a guy \$20 and he told him to go to Home Depot to buy some batteries," a worker said. "You pay the city over \$1 billion for the parking meter concession and you're buying batteries in \$20 batches?"

LAZ crews working out of a city Department of Revenue facility on Ashland Avenue were told to test old batteries to determine if they had enough power left and could be reinstalled in meters, workers said.

The company, which previously announced plans to correct problems with broken meters and other issues by early April, is now "off to a great start fixing it," said Alan Lazowski, LAZ chairman and chief executive officer.

Lazowski asked for patience, saying the 75-year concession agreement between the city and Chicago Parking Meters LLC "is unique, never been done on this scale in any part of the country." He said LAZ has "gotten on top of problems."

As of late last week, the city counted 278 inoperable meters, according to the Chicago Department of Revenue.

"City personnel continue to audit [the concessionaire] and perform inspections to ensure meters are functioning properly," Revenue Department spokesman Ed Walsh said.

LAZ has installed about 100 pay-and-display parking boxes that accept credit cards as well as quarters. The new boxes have replaced old, unreliable meters on parts of Clark, Ohio, Ontario, Division and Wells Streets, Lazowski said.

What drives you crazy?

Hey, drivers: Since the new meters took effect, which has been the biggest problem? Text "meter" and the number of your opinion to **87708**. You'll get the poll results instantly.

1. Broken meters
2. Overzealous ticketing
3. Misinformation on meters
4. Trouble contesting tickets

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QUINN: TAKE TRANSIT

Gov. Pat Quinn rides a Green Line train Monday bound for the Loop to drive home the message that riding public transit isn't risky to people's health. Quinn told reporters that even though there's heightened concern about the swine flu, people must go about their normal lives. **MICHAEL TERCHA/TRIBUNE**

Coffee competition heats up

Chicago Tribune

On Tuesday, McDonald's begins a massive advertising blitz to persuade customers to associate its famous "Mc" prefix with fancy coffee. Meanwhile, coffee king Starbucks Corp. has launched its own ad assault.

McDonald's foray into specialty coffee is its biggest product launch since breakfast in the 1970s. The coffee initiative is a direct threat to troubled Starbucks, though it's also an expensive risk for the Oak Brook, Ill.-based fast-food giant.

McDonald's has been gradually rolling out specialty coffee since late 2006. Now, it's moving from regional to full-bore national advertising.

The first spots focus on mochas and iced coffee drinks. The ads highlight the name McDonald's has chosen for its coffee lineup: McCafe.

"We are establishing the brand of McCafe," said Neil Golden, McDonald's chief U.S. mar-

keting officer.

In one TV ad, words like "chore" and "rinse" are given accent marks on the "e" so they rhyme with McCafe. That spot ends with the phrase, "McCafe your day."

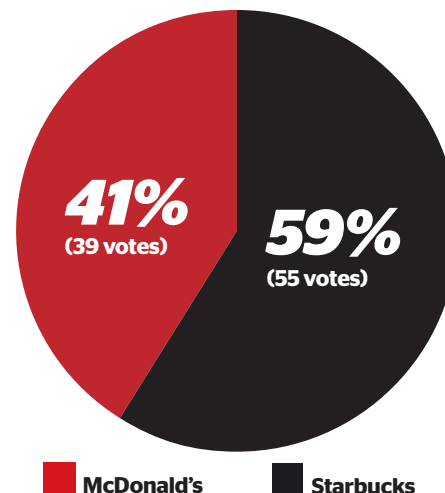
Golden wouldn't say how much McDonald's is spending on the blitz.

On Sunday, Starbucks unveiled its own new marketing offensive with a full-page ad in The New York Times. "There is a danger of coffee becoming commoditized to where it's all about the easiest access and the cheapest price point," said Terry Davenport, Starbucks' chief marketing officer. Indeed, one of Starbucks' new ads reads: "Beware of a cheaper cup of coffee. It comes with a price."

A shot at McDonald's? "It's broader than that," Davenport said. "We know there's a lot of competition."

And what about Starbucks' timing: A preemptive ad strike at McDonald's? Nope, just a coincidence, Davenport said.

Judging them on taste, which specialty coffee—lattes, cappuccinos, etc.—do you prefer?*



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Alleged teen impostor's latest police adventure

A teenager arrested earlier this year for impersonating a Chicago police officer allegedly led police on a chase in a stolen car before crashing it Friday, police said.

Authorities said the boy, whom the Tribune is not naming because he is a juvenile, allegedly took the 1990 black Lexus off the lot of a car dealer in the 7200 block of South Western Avenue. The boy wore a suit and tie to the dealer and asked to test drive the car, police said. When the boy and the salesman attempted to start the car they found the battery was dead and the dealer jumped it. When the salesman went to return the battery charger inside the building the teen drove off with the car, police said.

The boy, who was driving the car without license plates, cut off two officers near 95th and State Street. The men were driving in an unmarked police car. When the officers attempted to pull the car over the teen drove into a nearby McDonald's parking lot and crashed into a light pole, police said.

Police said that it wasn't until they had the teen in custody that they realized he was the alleged impostor. **TRIBUNE**

Charges possible in fatal nail-polish crash

The Lake County State's Attorney's office says it's looking into criminal charges against a woman who allegedly was painting her fingernails while driving and fatally struck a stopped motorcyclist over the weekend. Lora Hunt, 48, of Morris, who was driving behind Anita Zaffke of Lake Zurich told police "she was painting her nails as she drove and did not see [the motorcycle] until contact was already made," according to a Lake County Sheriff's Department incident report.

Help sought after teen's slaying

Chicago police Monday sought the public's help in their investigation into the slaying of 15-year-old Alex Arellano, whose body was found burned, beaten and shot in a South Side gangway on Saturday. Police on Monday distributed fliers in English and Spanish and asked anyone with information about the incident to call detectives at 312-747-8380.

AFTER 70 YEARS WE'VE LEARNED A TRICK OR SIX ABOUT INSTANT



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Cinco de Mayo guest

1 First Lady Michelle Obama on Monday used an early Cinco de Mayo celebration at two Washington bilingual charter schools to remind the crowd about the flu outbreak in Mexico that has left 26 confirmed dead. **GETTY IMAGES**

More charges

2 A medical student accused in Boston of killing a masseuse he met on Craigslist has been charged in Rhode Island with pulling a gun on a stripper in a hotel, Atty. Gen. Patrick Lynch said Monday in Warwick.

Missing boy

3 Investigators in California were searching Monday for a 3-year-old boy kidnapped by two gunmen who broke into his family's home in San Bernardino, tied up his mother and his four siblings, and stole property, authorities said.

Wicked weather

4 A tornado injured three people and damaged nearly two dozen homes Monday in Catahoula, La., a day after severe thunderstorms across the Southeast killed one person.

Fiat's plan

5 Fiat aims to take over General Motors' main European unit without running up debt in a deal that could require billions of dollars in government loan guarantees, Germany's economy minister said Monday in Berlin.

Not so happy

6 Police in Fribourg, Switzerland, say they are investigating a 7-year-old girl's discovery of a condom in her McDonald's Happy Meal. They say the mother called them after the girl discovered the condom among her french fries.

Mexico mad at China

Mexican officials angry about China's decision to quarantine more than 70 Mexicans over swine flu fears sent a plane Monday to the communist country to bring its citizens back home. China sent its own plane to retrieve Chinese nationals stranded in Mexico.

Teen escapes family slaying

7 **LAKELAND, Fla.** A 34-year-old father who shot and killed his wife and two young sons fell over a bicycle and missed another son before killing himself on the front lawn of their house, authorities said Monday.

The surviving 13-year-old boy escaped through the garage as his father fired a rifle at him, the Polk County Sheriff's Department said.

Investigators said Troy Ryan Bellar fatally shot his wife, Wendy Bellar, 31, and their

5-month-old and 8-year-old sons before killing himself late Sunday in Lakeland. They said they had not found any suicide note and a motive for the killings remained unclear.

Sheriff's Department spokesman Scott Wilder said Wendy Bellar tried to leave the home with two of the children after a fight with her husband.

"It's a very, very angry and selfish and cowardly person who murdered his family," Wilder said. "What motive or what explanation can you give?"

Wilder said Troy Bellar chased 13-year-old Nathan Bellar through their garage, but tripped over a bicycle and fell. The father's gun discharged, but he got back up and fired at least two more rounds before killing himself.

A neighbor who saw the chase told authorities in a 911 call the teen was "running around in the garage with his hands up, and like screaming."

Nathan fled safely to the house of another neighbor, who also called 911.



A grain of salt over Dr Pepper

8 **DALLAS** Poking through antiques stores while traveling through Texas, Bill Waters stumbled across a tattered old ledger book filled with formulas.

He bought it for \$200, suspecting he could resell it for five times that. Turns out, his inkling about the book's value was more spot on than he knew. The Tulsa, Okla., man eventually discovered the book came from the Waco, Texas, drugstore where Dr Pepper was invented and includes a recipe titled "D Peppers Pepsin Bitters."

"I began feeling like I had a national treasure," said Waters, 59.

Dr Pepper's manufacturer says the recipe is not the secret formula for the modern day soft drink, but the book is expected to sell for between \$50,000 to \$75,000 when it goes up for auction May 13.



Dropping in

9 An Afghan boy looks on Monday as U.S. soldiers from the First Battalion, 26th Infantry descend from an observation post above the U.S. base camp Blessing in Afghanistan's Kunar province. **AP**

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644 W. Belmont Avenue

- Wednesday, 5/13 @ 6:00 pm

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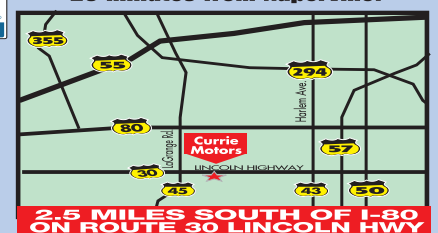
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Fight!

RedEye's Bag Boy, Vancouver 24 hours' Guts McTavish talk trash

NHL PLAYOFFS
Game 3:
Blackhawks
vs. Vancouver
7 p.m. Tuesday, CSN

RedEye
There is a lot riding on this Blackhawks-Vancouver Canucks series. A trip to the Western Conference Finals

is on the bottom of the list. Pride is first.

Like RedEye, Vancouver 24 hours is a free commuter newspaper, and the editors there dared to bet us that the Canucks and stud goalie Roberto Luongo would beat our young Blackhawks. They even sent us their sports "expert" Guts McTavish to duel RedEye's Bag Boy. Their feud couldn't be contained in Five on Five (Page 14), so here's more of what they love to hate about each other's team and city.



Chicago's Duncan Keith (right) tangles with Alex Burrows during a game in March. GETTYIMAGESFILE



Guts McTavish

FIVE THINGS I HATE ABOUT CHICAGO

Your infamous Windy City only served to play havoc with the great Bobby Hull's early rugs.

I hate that your former owner passed away. I liked the way things were heading with old Wirtzy at the helm.

Your piss-poor playoff beards are not even worthy of a Susan Boyle eyebrow.

I hate that you still refer to your goalie as The Bulin Wall. You do realize when the Canucks are finished with him he'll forever be known as The Wailing Wall.

If you want me to pronounce your bloody name correctly then spell it T-A-V-E-S!



FIVE THINGS I HATE ABOUT VANCOUVER

1

Hockey team name: the Canucks. A Canuck is a Canadian, so the hockey team is basically the Vancouver Canadians. That's like an American sports team calling itself the Yankees. Lame and lamer.

2

The Grizzlies. Sorry, but two NBA teams in Canada is two too many. The Vancouver Grizzlies, perhaps the most worthless sports franchise ever. Oh, they don't play in Vancouver anymore? That makes sense.

3



Canucks logo. My Five on Five buddy Leo first brought this up: What the heck is up with that logo? If a Canuck is a Canadian, why does the logo have a shark or whale or whatever turning into the letter "C"?

4

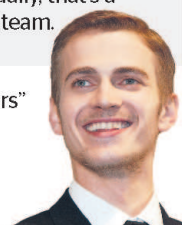
General Motors Place. The Canucks play here. And I use the term "play" loosely. First of all, isn't GM an American company? Secondly, isn't GM going to be bankrupt soon? Actually, that's a perfect marriage. Hello, failing auto company, meet Vancouver's failing hockey team.

5

Hayden Christensen. This guy single-handedly ruined all those crappy "Star Wars" prequels. Guess where he was born? Vancouver, of course. May the Farce be with you, Vancouver.



Bag Boy



Getting pucky

Bag Boy and Guts McTavish bring their Blackhawks-Canucks fight into Five on Five. Can't they just get along? Follow along at twitter.com/redeyesports.



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ALEX QUIGLEY
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BAG BOY
redeyesports@tribune.com



GUTS MCTAVISH
redeyesports@tribune.com

1 What are you going to do to help your team win tonight's game at the United Center?

Make sure Roberto Luongo is in net for Vancouver. Five goals in 15:24 in Game 2? Siv.

Pull that hand out of Guts' backside. In this country, we have laws.

Interrupt whatever song's on-air to scream during the anthem.

I'm taking an extra stash of bags. I'll try to throw one over Luongo's face.

I plan on kidnapping Cam Barker and secretly replacing him with veteran Bob Barker.

2 What is up with that Vancouver Canucks logo?

Clearly, they lost a bet.

It's a logo with a porpoise: Free Willie Mitchell.

Another Canadian team with a C-based logo, another series win.

I'd tell you, but I'd have to kill myself for thinking about it too much.

Even the Cleveland Browns think the Canucks logo is weak.

3 How important is home ice in an NHL playoff series?

Unimportant if you're Vancouver and you can't hold two- and three-goal leads.

Home ice where the heart is. Or in Jimmy's case, the hookers.

Home team wins 55.4% of the time. Yes, a snark-free statistic.

It's vital, so very vital. You can't make a good Jack and Coke without the perfect ice cube.

I used to think it was vital until you buggers ripped it out from under the Canucks.

4 The Cubs have had so many injuries...

... they're trying to get swine flu just so they'll be healthier.

... they finally have an excuse to be in the fetal position.

... that Kerry Wood is looking like the Iron Horse these days.

... that even Mark Prior is laughing at them.

... they're now just one rotator cuff away from a free six-inch sub.

5 Kobe Bryant played with a sore throat Monday. How did that affect his game?

It didn't. Taking penicillin is probably a pretty routine part of his life.

A sore throat would affect a gentleman's game. And Kobe, sir, is no gentle man.

His postgame news conference was a lil' bit pitchy, dawg.

Look, you're not Michael Jordan, even if you do steal his playing-while-sick routine. Loser.

Kobe sets NBA record for most uncontested dunks due to swine flu rumors.

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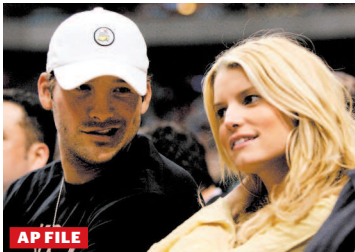
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AP FILE

Romo, Simpson dish

It's tough being a superstar couple. Just ask Dallas Cowboys quarterback Tony Romo and singer Jessica Simpson. They talked to Vanity Fair about their relationship, and here's what they had to say.

TONY ON THEIR BACKGROUNDS

"She has a very small-town side to her. We're very similar in that we both appreciate the hometown feel to a lot of things, and live our life like that."

JESSICA ON THE COWBOYS

"I was always a fan. In Texas, it's a sin not to be. But I've never been as passionate as I am now. Before a game, I'm crazed, sending mass e-mails: 'Please pray for Tony's protection.'"

TONY ON VACATIONING

"A lot of people head to Vegas, go back to their hometowns, colleges, and stuff [between games]. I was just like, 'Let's rent a house and sit around and watch football.' It seemed like a good decision. But when you're in the public eye, things can be perceived differently."

TONY ON LOSING

"You know, it's very hard when you lose because games are important, and so many people put so much time and effort in. It's nice to have someone to come home to and try and make you feel better."

JESSICA ON DATING A QB

"Dating the Cowboys quarterback comes with hype, the fans, the bloggers, but I've never dated a guy that was more simple. I'm always there for him after a game, and he knows he has me to come home to."

James
AP FILE

KING OF THE HILL

Cleveland Cavaliers guard LeBron James was pretty much untouchable on the court this season, and when it came time for the votes to be cast for the NBA's MVP, he was untouchable there too. King James won what some expected to be a close vote in a slam dunk. He received 109 of a possible 121 first-place votes to easily outdistance Kobe Bryant of the L.A. Lakers. Here's how the vote broke down.

LeBron James

109 first-place votes, 1,172 points

Kobe Bryant

2 first-place votes, 698 points

Dwyane Wade

7 first-place votes, 680 points

Dwight Howard

1 first-place vote, 328 points

Chris Paul

2 first-place votes, 192 points

Bryant
GETTY IMAGESWade
MCT FILEHoward
MCTPaul
GETTY IMAGES

**watch
dog**

WHIZZER
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All hail King James, NBA MVP. Now, let's get him in a Bulls jersey next off-season. Hey, a dog can dream, can't he? Here now, my TV picks.



NHL PLAYOFFS

Game 3: Blackhawks vs. Vancouver

7 p.m. CSN

If the Blackhawks win this, it's over. Plus, I'll make a killing in Vegas. Go Hawks!



MLB

Cubs vs. San Francisco

1:20 p.m. CSN

Funny thing: I always thought "Giants" referred to Barry Bonds and his head.



MLB

White Sox at Kansas City

7:10 p.m. CSN

Hoping for a Royal butt-whooping in this series-long battle for first in the AL Central.

HOMETOWN HITS



Cubs 4, San Francisco 2

» Carlos Zambrano is out two or three weeks after being placed on the disabled list due to a strained left hamstring. The right-hander was injured while running out a bunt for a hit in Sunday's win over the Florida Marlins.



Kansas City 3, White Sox 0

» Right-fielder Jermaine Dye could return to the White Sox's lineup Tuesday night, but third baseman Josh Fields could be sidelined until Wednesday, manager Ozzie Guillen said. Both players are nursing left hand injuries. Fields said he feels discomfort most when he grips a bat. Dye's hand was slightly swollen, but he said much of the pain had subsided.

ONE-LINERS

» North Carolina basketball team to be honored at White House on Monday. » Rookie orientation program for Indy 500 begins Tuesday at Indianapolis Motor Speedway. » Dallas Cowboys' special teams coach Joe DeCamillis has surgery Monday after being injured in collapse of team's tentlike practice facility Saturday.

June 8

Date that the Wii version of Tiger Woods PGA Tour 10 will arrive in stores. The game will be available for Xbox 360, PlayStation 3, PS2 and the PSP a week later.



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Market watch

Green City Market returns with a new crop of ready-to-eat products

By M. Cecilia Wong

After retreating indoors for the colder months, Green City Market returns Wednesday to open-air digs in Lincoln Park. And the market's not the only thing that's stepping out this week. Several vendors are debuting new prepared goods, adding to your options for eating on the spot.



STACIE FREUDENBERG FILE FOR REDEYE

Green City Market

Where: 1750 N. Clark St. (south end of Lincoln Park between Clark Street and Stockton Drive)
When: 7 a.m.-1 p.m. Wednesdays and Saturdays
Season: Wednesday-Oct. 31

Heritage Prairie Market

What's new: Sweet and savory tarts and wraps. The folks at Heritage, who christened a commercial kitchen in November, pile their handmade tarts and wraps with organic products grown on their one-acre farm in Elburn, Ill., occasionally supplementing with produce from other Green City vendors. Fillings or toppings for May include Heritage asparagus, ramps, green onions, raspberries and rhubarb, as well as Capriole Farm goat cheese and Three Sisters Garden black beans. Later in the season, expect heirloom tomato and basil tarts (June), and wraps with summer squash, spring peas and ricotta (July).

Cost: \$4 each

Seedling Enterprises

What's new: Sorbet. The folks at Seedling's orchard in South Haven, Mich., blend picked-at-their-peak apples, peaches, strawberries and blueberries with simple syrup and bits of herbs such as mint or lemon verbena for these sorbets, scooped fresh at the market. Initial offerings will be thick sorbets made from house-made apple cider and blueberries, the latter frozen from last season. (It's not rare for early markets to include goods made with frozen produce—Midwest growers gotta work with the weather.) Next, Seedling will experiment with strawberries and rhubarb.

Cost: \$3 for 4-ounce scoop

Sunday Dinner

What's new: Grilled flatbreads. Sunday Dinner, a Chicago-based private-event catering company that's been at the market for three years, serves up thin-crust flatbreads cooked on a wood-based charcoal grill. Early on, look for homemade-dough flatbreads topped with caramelized Nichols Farm spring onions, River Valley Ranch wild mushrooms and Prairie Fruits Farm goat cheese. (Add roasted bacon pieces from Twin Oak Meats for \$2.) The height of summer promises mozzarella and heirloom-tomato flatbreads, as well as familiar season-long Sunday Dinner staples such as breakfast sandwiches and burgers.

Cost: \$6-\$8

Crepe Stand

What's new: Flavored waters. Green City's own Crepe Stand, now in its 11th year, has commissioned local chefs to develop recipes for house-made syrups, which are then mixed with water, ice and herb or fruit garnishes. Though availability and flavors will depend on what's in season, expect a rhubarb and honey concoction from chef Paul Virant (Vie) to kick things off in the market's first few weeks. Come late July, the crepe stand's other offerings will include icy gazpacho made with tomatoes, cucumbers, onions, garlic and local herbs. Watch for warm soups when sweater weather sets in again.

Cost: \$2 for 12-ounce cup of flavored water

Farm to table

Dinner's in the bag with these new take-home items available at Green City Market.

Floriole Bakery: croissants

French pastries, available plain or stuffed with goat cheese, bacon or fruit jam, are the latest offerings from this Chicago bakery. They're made partially with a sourdough starter, which adds a complex tang. **Cost:** \$3-\$3.50

Kinnikinnick Farm: arugula pesto

The Caledonia, Ill., farm debuts its blend of arugula, Italian greens, garlic, and olive and soybean oil. Use it with pasta, as a meat rub or as a spread.

Cost: \$8 for a 6-ounce jar

Tomato Mountain Farm: tomato juice

The full-bodied juice concocted from heirloom and other red varieties by this Brooklyn, Wis., producer is rich in flavor and low in sodium. It makes for a tasty bloody mary base.

Cost: \$8 for a quart

Tiny Greens: nigari tofu

This tofu is made from organic soybeans and prepared with nigari (a natural curdling agent) in Tiny Greens' Urbana kitchen a day before it's sold.

Cost: \$5 for 14-ounce block M.C.W.

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tue
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Infamous Idol

The Spot,
4437 N. Broadway.
Sing for actors

portraying "Idol" judges at this karaoke contest and benefit for Infamous Commonwealth Theatre. Includes cocktails. 8 p.m. \$15. 312-458-9780.

Cinco de Mayo Fiesta

Chicago History Museum,
1601 N. Clark St. 312-642-4600.

Learn about the history of the holiday, then watch a margarita-mixing demo and sample guacamole, Mexican beer and tequilas. 7 p.m. \$20-\$25.

Cinco de Moonshine

Moonshine, 1824 W. Division St.
773-862-8686.

A mariachi band (6-9 p.m.) keeps things festive while you devour specials such as \$2 steak tacos, \$5-\$6 margaritas and \$3 Corona bottles. 11 a.m. No cover.

wed
6

Live Game Show

Wild Pug, 4810 N.
Broadway. 773-784-4811.

A new night of comedy, improv and audience interaction features actors impersonating celebrities in a satire of '70s and '80s game shows. 9 p.m. \$5.



Wild Pug
FILE FOR METROMIX

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7

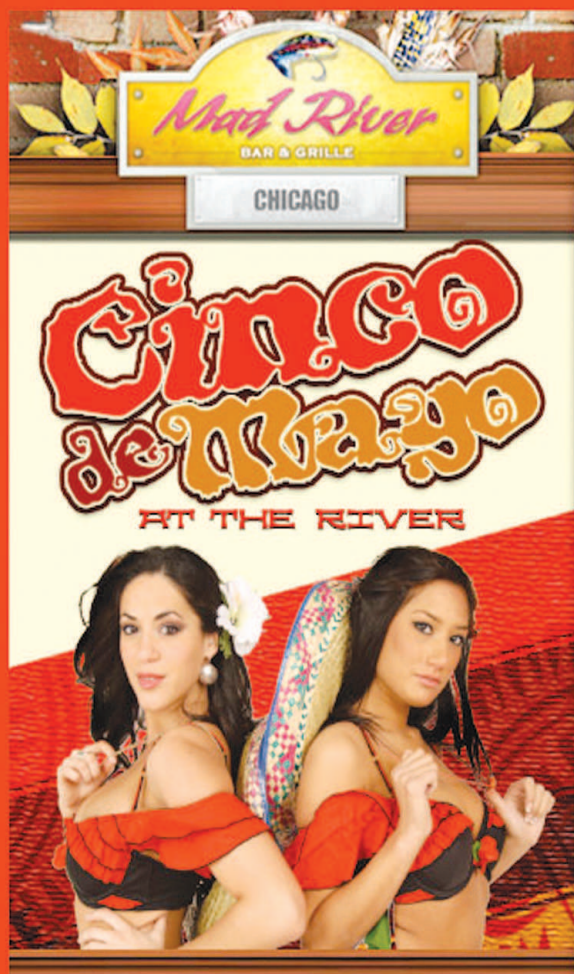
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LaSalle Power Co., 500 N.
La Salle St. 312-226-9950.

See the most popular bands from our sixth annual Rock 'n' Vote contest: Cobalt and the Hired Guns, Pet Lions, The Loneliest Monk and I Fight Dragons. 7 p.m. No cover. RSVP required.

'This American Life—Live!'

Various locations, including AMC River East 21, 322 E. Illinois St. Get tickets now for an encore screening of the April 23 NPR show that was filmed live with host Ira Glass and contributors Dan Savage, David Rakoff, Starlee Kine and others. 7 p.m. \$18. Tickets: thislife.org



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Cinco de Mayo parties

Celebrate with margaritas, buffets, music and more at these Tuesday bashes.

BASE BAR

5:30 p.m.: Learn how to make margaritas with mixologist Peter Vestinos. At 7 p.m., sample Don Julio tequilas and learn about the different varieties. No cover; 230 N. Michigan Ave. Hard Rock Hotel, lobby. 312-345-1000.

BULL & BEAR

11 a.m.: Celebrate with \$5 Sauza margaritas, half-priced quesadillas and special dishes such as wild boar tacos (\$16), chicken enchiladas (\$12) and tres leches cake with strawberry compote (\$7). No cover; 431 N. Wells St. 312-527-5973.

CROSSROADS

11 a.m.: Includes \$2.50 Dos Equis drafts, \$3.50 Corona and Corona Light bottles, \$3 house tequila shots and \$4 Cuervo shots. No cover; 2630 N. Clark St. 773-248-3900.

FIZZ BAR & GRILL

5 p.m.: Celebrate with 50 cent tacos and \$3 Corona and Dos Equis bottles. No cover; 3220 N. Lincoln Ave. 773-348-6088.

JOHN

BARLEYCORN

5 p.m.: Celebrate with \$4 Dos Equis bottles and a \$12.95 Mexican buffet of tamales, enchiladas, steak fajitas and chocolate-stuffed churros (7-10 p.m.). The regular menu is also available; 658 W. Belden Ave. 773-348-8899.

LA CANTINA GRILL

11 a.m.: The third annual party features live music and food and drink specials. No cover; 1911 S. Michigan Ave. 312-842-1911.

MARKET

6 p.m.: Grab T-shirts, cowboy hats, keychains and other giveaways from Cazadores promotional models at this bash. Specials include \$1 Coronitas, \$3 Coronas and \$5 Cazadores margaritas; 1113 W. Randolph St. 312-929-4787.

MOONSHINE

11 a.m.: Cinco de Moonshine. Celebrate Cinco de Mayo with a live mariachi band from 6-9 p.m. Mexican food and drink specials include \$7 nachos, \$2 steak tacos, \$5-\$6 margaritas, \$20

Cazadores margarita pitchers and \$3 Corona and Corona Light bottles. No cover; 1824 W. Division St. 773-862-8686.

NACIONAL 27

6 p.m.: The Ultimate Cinco de Mayo Party. DJ George Perez spins at this bash, which includes passed tapas, margaritas, sangria and Five Citrus Cazuelas specialty cocktails. \$27; 325 W. Huron St. 312-664-2727.

O'DONOVAN'S

11 a.m.: Mexican food and drink specials complement the regular menu, including \$3 horchatas (rice milk); \$7 frozen mango, raspberry and strawberry margaritas; \$4 Milagro shots; \$5 Milagro margaritas and Micheladas (Dos Equis with lime and bloody mary spices); \$6 Milagro frozen margaritas and horchata with tequila; and \$1 off Corona and Negro Modelo bottles. Food specials (available 4-10 p.m.) include 30 cent buffalo and barbecue chicken wings. No cover; 2100 W. Irving Park Rd. 773-478-2100.

PAR LOUNGE

7 p.m.: Get \$4 select martinis and bottles of Veuve Clicquot for \$75 or opt for an open bar (9-11 p.m.) for \$25. No cover; 1415 N. Milwaukee Ave. 773-252-6410.

ROCKIT BAR & GRILL

11 a.m.: Food and drink specials include \$12 chorizo pizzas, \$14 chicken tortillas, \$2 Tecate bottles and \$5 Ranch margaritas (Sauza Commemorative tequila, Cointreau, orange juice, sour mix and lime juice). No cover; 22 W. Hubbard St. 312-645-6000.

SALUD TEQUILA LOUNGE

4 p.m.: The bar opens early for dinner (reservations only for groups of four or more, 4-7 p.m.), with a DJ spinning salsa beats till midnight. Specials include \$3 Corona. No cover; 1471 N. Milwaukee Ave. 773-235-5577.

THE TWISTED LIZARD

11 a.m.: Cinco de Mayo at The Twisted Lizard. Includes a mariachi band and \$6 El Jimador margaritas. No cover; 1964 N. Sheffield Ave. 773-929-1414.

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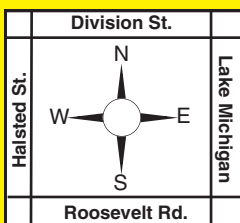
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Ringleader

Pink talks grand spectacle that is tour, love philosophy

Associated Press

When Pink came up with the circus-themed theatrics for her “Funhouse” tour, she didn’t think she’d be sharing her big-top theme with another pop singer.

She sighs with resignation when a comparison is made to Britney Spears’ latest tour, “The Circus,” which, like Pink’s tour, features high-flying dancers and acrobats, and is a grand spectacle.

“Had I known that certain other people were going to base their latest thing about circus things, I probably would have went into another direction,” Pink, 29, said. “I was six months before that and didn’t really understand that it was a trend that was happening. I’m pretty out of the loop.”

Not that anyone would confuse their tours. Spears’ show is a lip-synched, dance-oriented affair, while Pink says her show is all about gritty, emotional rock ‘n’ roll—“two hours of group therapy.”

She talked about channeling her feelings through song, getting back together with her ex-husband and her philosophy on love.

Pink

You say this is your first headlining tour in the U.S. What took you so long?

I don’t know. I’ve put a lot of work in as far as being a touring artist, and I’ve been doing it on a pretty large scale for seven or eight years now (overseas).

Lots of musicians have used the circus for inspiration. Why do you think artists connect with circuses?

When we were little, [we] probably wanted to run away and join the circus because it’s full of what mainstream society considers freakish and the outcasts, and it’s kind of sexy and exciting and big and over the top.

There’s been talk that you and Corey Hart are getting back together and even remarrying. Is that true?

I don’t know where the remarriage thing came from. That kind of came out of the air. We are definitely back together.

What did you take away from your time apart?

We try to protect ourselves from being fully in love and fully open and fully vulnerable, and really all we’re doing is protecting ourselves from love and real love and the opportunity to really learn and grow with another person, so it’s actually really detrimental, and you think it’s helping.

So your advice would be ...

Dive in. Absolutely, it’s not going to kill you.

So would you remarry?

We never really legally got divorced. Paperwork for both of us is really annoying. So we’re choosing to be together. Our role models are Tim Robbins and Susan Sarandon and Kurt Russell and Goldie Hawn—people who just choose to be together every day because they want to be there. And labels have never been our thing, so, we’re just diving into that empty swimming pool, headfirst.

Much of the last record dealt with your split. Is it hard to sing those songs now?

Aside from a few songs that are completely vulnerable for me, when I’m writing even my angry kind of “So What,” for me, it’s every emotion involved—I’m being sarcastic, I’m being silly, I’m being angry, I’m all of these emotions, all at the same time, so I include them in my songs. So it’s still silly, it’s still funny, I still have anger. It’s really easy to just be right back there. ... I don’t have a hard time transplanting myself straight back to that moment.



Von Iva

Metromix’s top shows

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8:30 p.m. \$7. Elbo Room, 2871 N. Lincoln Ave. 773-549-5549.

BILL’S BLUES JAM

8:30 p.m. Free. Bill’s Blues Bar, 1029 Davis St., Evanston. 847-424-9800.

CELTIC SEISIUNS

7 p.m. Free. The Celtic Knot Public House, 626 Church St., Evanston. 847-864-1679.

CHARLIE LOVE BLUES BAND WITH NELLIE TRAVIS

9 p.m. \$8. Blue Chicago at Ohio, 536 N. Clark St. 312-661-0100.

THE DEAD

7:30 p.m. Sold out. Allstate Arena, 6920 Mannheim Rd., Rosemont. 312-559-1212.

DEEP BLUE ORGAN TRIO

9 p.m. \$6. Green Mill, 4802 N. Broadway. 773-878-5552.

EDDIE C. CAMPBELL
12:15 p.m. Free. Chicago Cultural Center, 78 E.

Washington St. 312-744-6630.

GHOST, BABY DEE

9:30 p.m. \$12. Empty Bottle, 1035 N. Western Ave. 773-276-3600.

HELLO DAVE

9 p.m. Free. Stanley’s Kitchen and Tap, 1970 N. Lincoln Ave. 312-642-0007.

JOE BARR, JOANNA CONNOR

9:30 p.m. \$12. Kingston Mines, 2548 N. Halsted St. 773-477-4646.

THE LAWRENCE PETERS OUTFIT

9:30 p.m. \$5 donation. Hideout, 1354 W. Wabansia Ave. 773-227-4433.

LORNA BOSTON BAND

10:30 p.m. Cover varies. The Underground Wonder Bar, 10 E. Walton St. 312-266-7761.

MIKE FROST PROJECT

8 and 10 p.m. Cover varies. Jazz Showcase, 806 S. Plymouth Ct. 312-360-0234.

PETE GALANIS AND FRIENDS

9:30 p.m. \$7. Rosa’s Lounge, 3420 W. Armitage Ave. 773-342-0452.

QUINTUS MCCORMICK

9:30 p.m. \$10. Buddy Guy’s Legends, 754 S. Wabash Ave. 312-427-0333.

RYAN SUZUKA

8 p.m. Tips/donations. Uncommon Ground on Clark, 3800 N. Clark St. 773-929-3680.

SEXFIST

10 p.m. Free. Red Line Tap, 7006 N. Glenwood Ave. 773-274-5463.

TOM HOLLAND

8:30 p.m. Free. Harlem Avenue Lounge, 3701 Harlem Ave., Berwyn. 708-484-3610.

TONY LUCCA, JOEY DEGRAW

8 p.m. \$10. Martyrs’, 3855 N. Lincoln Ave. 773-404-9869.

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pop

The big blowup

TV and movie characters have a habit of letting annoyances slide until they explode. Here are some moments when small quibbles blew up into huge fights.

LEONOR VIVANCO, REDEYE



"THE BREAK-UP"

Story line: Brooke (Jennifer Aniston) complains Gary (Vince Vaughn) didn't bring home enough lemons for the dining room table centerpiece, won't help her set the table and won't do the dishes. The explosive fight is about how she thinks he doesn't do anything for her.



"SEX AND THE CITY"

Story line: Aidan just moved in with Carrie. When she comes home, he bombards her with questions of where's she been and what's she been doing. Boxes are everywhere and he suggests she clear out space in her closet for him. They get into a heated argument and don't speak to each other for three days.



"JERRY MAGUIRE"

Story line: Jerry (Tom Cruise) finds his fiancée Avery (Kelly Preston) to be brutally honest. She tells him he screwed up both their lives by not signing to rep a player. He realizes she's not supportive or compassionate and breaks it off.

"THE DEVIL WEARS PRADA"

Story line: Andy (Anne Hathaway) is always at the beck and call of her boss, taking her calls and running errands. Her boyfriend gets frustrated because they don't spend much time together. She misses his birthday celebration and the couple separate.



By Leonor Vivanco
REDEYE

Monica O'Neill, 28, had become accustomed to her husband's indecisiveness.

"Our problem is always, 'What do you want to do?' 'I don't care. What do you want to do?'" she said.

Usually that kind of response came across as a small annoyance. But as she tried to firm up Valentine's Day plans this year, O'Neill said, it drove her crazy.

"I was taking it to the next level, like, he doesn't understand the importance of doing anything nice together," said O'Neill, who lives in Hoffman Estates. "It's our Valentine's Day. It's not just for me."

Though it's not as devastating as cheating, minor problems—such as the O'Neills' indecision over dinner reservations—can push couples to the brink of a blowup.

University of Louisville psychologist Michael Cunningham published a study in 2005 that illustrated how minor irritants can build up over time and lead to a breakup. Annoyances in relationships tend to produce a small negative reaction, but when repeated, the reaction grows stronger.

In the study, men pointed to their partners' possessiveness and critical remarks as annoyances, while women cited uncouth behavior, such as drunkenness and nose-picking.

Couples inevitably get on each other's nerves, but how they handle problems can help keep the relationship from crumbling because of the slightest irritating things. Often, the little annoyances can be indicative of a bigger issue, relationship experts told RedEye. Though an action itself might be insignificant, the meaning attached to the action can be more troubling.

If couples want the relationship to work, they

should identify what's bothering them and find out how it can be resolved, experts say.

In short: Couples should pick their battles, said Charlene Krombeen, a psychotherapist in the Loop. The solution can sometimes be unbelievably simple.

Elizabeth Marco, 29, of Wicker Park recalled a former boyfriend who peeled off his dirty socks and tossed them, inside-out, onto the floor. Gross? Sure. Big problem? No, Marco said, because the two took turns cleaning their apartment. "If that was his worst error, I'm fine with it," she said.

When does a tiny annoyance become a bigger problem? "The moment you start to feel resentful, angry or walked-on is the moment that's an issue," said Harlan Cohen, advice columnist and author of "The Naked Roommate."

If it's really bothersome, couples should say something to each other before it becomes



Chris Roser (left) gets annoyed when his boyfriend, Alberto Feliciano, leaves dirty dishes, but he's reluctant to raise the issue. KATE DOUGHERTY FOR REDEYE

a huge deal, said Cohen, who lives in Lakeview.

"You don't want to blow these things off early because what happens is it becomes a habit. You become increasingly angry and then you explode one day and it's not fair because nobody knew," he said.

The lesson, according to Krombeen: Don't suffer in silence if the annoying habit is a potential deal-breaker.

Be direct about the problem and use humor if possible to defuse the issue, she said. That way, addressing the problem won't be seen as nagging.

But don't have The Talk while the offense is happening, Cohen warned, because the significant other might get defensive, which could escalate into an argument.

"One of the fundamental characteristics of a successful relationship is having the ability to be comfortable with the uncomfortable. You need

to make a rule that [says], 'If I do something that makes you uncomfortable, I need to know,'" Cohen said.

If those on the receiving end feel they are being lectured, they should tell their partners they're happy the annoyance was brought to their attention, but they could've done so without a condescending tone, he said.

While women tend to be more vocal about their frustrations, a lot of times men hold it in, Krombeen said.

It bugged Steve Petersen, a firefighter who lives in Forest Park, that his girlfriend at the time always controlled the car radio, even switching away from songs he liked.

"She didn't seem to care about what I wanted to do," he said.

At first he brought it up jokingly, but Petersen, 27, said that turned into an argument, making him look like the bad guy. Eventually, he said, he stopped saying anything about it.

Petersen's relationship didn't end solely because of the radio issue but it played a part, he said.

Even when certain behaviors drive them up the wall, some aren't quick to make their frustrations known.

Lakeview resident Chris Roser, 25, knows he doesn't vent as quickly as he should. When his boyfriend made dinner and left him with the dirty dishes, "I bit my lip and put [the dishes] under water," he said, adding he hasn't brought up the issue to resolve it.

"You think you could get past it but then, everything else, including that one subject, comes up and eventually that's when the relationship hits the rocks," he said.

Avoiding conflict can affect intimacy, which can pull a couple apart over time, Krombeen said. Working through conflict draws a couple closer, she said. She suggests negotiating a solution.

"If you can work through small annoying habits together well, even in fear of hurting the other person's feelings, if you communicate about it, that'll build strength to work around larger conflicts as well," she said.

O'Neill didn't keep it bottled up that she was upset with her husband over Valentine's Day plans. Instead, she talked to him later about how she felt. She said her husband told her he did care, but he knew how much she liked to make plans and wanted to let her do it.

O'Neill said the couple compromised: She gave her husband a list of restaurant options and he picked the place.

It's safe to say they got past their tiff: They're planning on welcoming their first child at the end of May.

LVIVANCO@TRIBUNE.COM

THE 10 DATING COMMANDMENTS

Habits can be hard to break, but are they breaking up your relationship with your significant other? RedEye pinpointed the little annoyances that make us bug out.

I Thou shalt never, ever carry on a phone conversation while using the toilet. Not even your own mother wants to hear from you that badly.



II Thou shalt eat the food your significant other slaved over a hot stove to make for you.

III But, thou shalt not eat the last piece of anything without at least offering it up first—even if you don't really mean it.

IV Thou shalt not invite friends to stay over without making sure it's OK.



V Thou shalt not wear white socks with black shoes.

VI Thou shalt lend a hand with the housework.



VII Thou shalt not use the last of the soap or toilet paper without replacing it.

VIII Thou shalt not post ridiculous or schmaltzy messages on Facebook or Twitter.

IX Thou shalt not set 13 alarms to wake up in the morning.



X And, unless thou wantest thine buttocks kicked, thou shalt not forget a birthday or special event.

3 reasons to see Potter exhibit

By Alice Truong
REDEYE

Ready to enter the magical world of Harry Potter?

Head over to the Museum of Science and Industry for "Harry Potter: The Exhibition," a showcase of more than 200 costumes and props from the films. Chicago hosts the world premiere of this five-year exhibit, which opened Thursday and runs through Sept. 27. The exhibit, which took 3,200 hours to set up, is open until 9 p.m.

As a Muggle, you can experience a world through the exhibit you only dreamt was possible. When you enter, the sorting hat determines your

fate by assigning you to a Hogwarts house. After the sorting process and a short Harry Potter montage, you're transported via the Hogwarts Express to nine settings reconstructed with original movie props, from the Gryffindor common room to the Forbidden Forest.

Potter fans of all ages—kids dressed up in wizard garb, young adults clad with Gryffindor-colored scarves and even grandparents—have made their way to the exhibit since its opening.

There's a lot to gawk at in the 10,000-square-foot space, so here are three must-see treasures for every Potter fan:

HARRY POTTER: THE EXHIBITION
Museum of Science and Industry,
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1 Wands

Scattered throughout, you'll find 16 original wands (including Harry's) from the movies. You can even see the tape on Ron Weasley's wand from when he nearly snapped it in half in "Harry Potter and the Chamber of Secrets."

2 Quidditch arena

Try your hand at Quidditch (minus the flying brooms). The Nimbus 2000 stands proudly next to the arena where you can toss Quaffles through the looped goal posts.

3 Screaming Mandrakes

Though the screams of Mandrakes (left) are potent enough to kill, the plants in the replicated Herbology greenhouse are harmless. If you unearth them, their screams will certainly annoy you enough to put them back in their proper place.

STACIE FREUDENBERG FOR TRIBUNE



The exhibit features Gryffindor Quidditch robes worn by Oliver Wood in "Harry Potter and the Chamber of Secrets." MUSEUM OF SCIENCE AND INDUSTRY PHOTO



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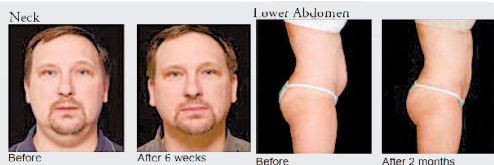
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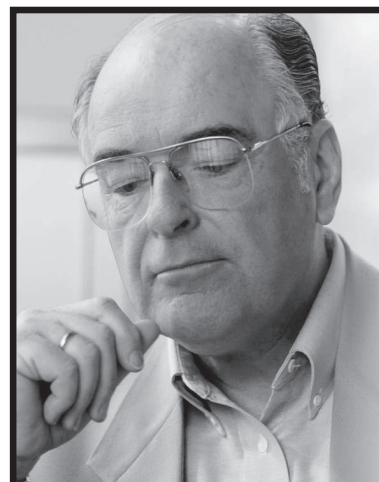
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**VIDEO****"Maybe California"** *Tori Amos, toriamos.com*

Tori Amos' new album, "Abnormally Attracted to Sin," drops May 19, but Amos is offering this free track via her Web site. She also has made a haunting video, where she strolls along the Hollywood Walk of Fame, the beaches of Malibu and other places amid melancholy verses and choruses.

POPMATTERS.COM, REDEYE

**TV ON DVD****"Earth Final Conflict: Season One"**

\$40 for 22 episodes, *Universal*

The syndicated "Final Conflict" pits the people of Earth against alien visitors who claim to be helpful, but, well, that would be boring. This is a special treat for "Star Trek" fans. "Trek" creator Gene Roddenberry came up with this series, but it wasn't developed until after his 1997 death. Extras include an intro by "Rod" Roddenberry, Gene's son; six episode commentaries and a making-of featurette. Seasons 3, 4 and 5 are already out in DVD, released by another company. **CURT WAGNER, REDEYE**

**ALBUM****"Wooden Arms"**

Patrick Watson

Patrick Watson's compositions are deceptively simple. His voice hovers around the mystical midpoint between Radiohead's Thom Yorke and Antony & the Johnsons' Antony Hegarty. On "Wooden Arms," both of those gifts complement each other. With "Wooden Arms," especially the stylish waltz of a title track and the spare, plaintive "Man Like You," Watson establishes himself as one of Canada's hottest exports.

GLENN GAMBOA, *NEWSDAY*

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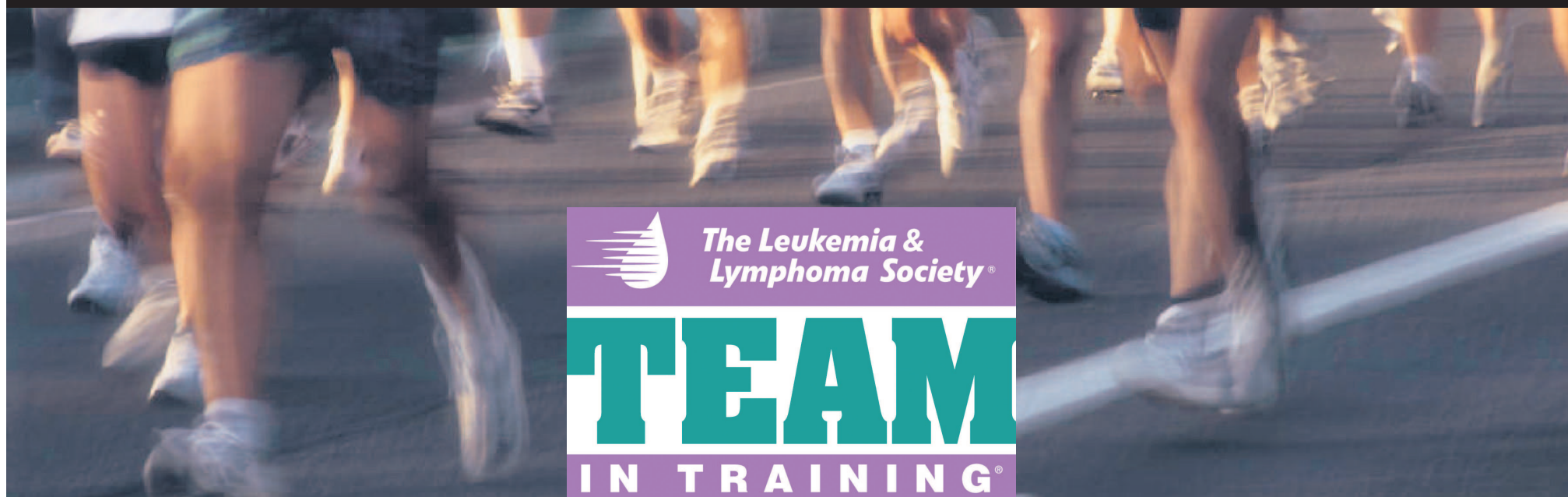
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- Ghosts-Girlfrnd (PG-13) 2:30,5:00,7:40,10:20
- X-Men Origins (PG-13) 1:45,3:00,4:30,5:45,7:15,8:30,10:00,11:15
- Battle (PG) 2:40,5:10,7:30,9:45
- Obsessed (PG-13) 2:15,5:20,8:00,10:50
- The Soloist (PG-13) 2:00,4:50,7:50,10:40
- State of Play (PG-13) 1:00,4:00,7:00,10:10
- 17 Again (PG-13) 1:30,4:15,6:50,9:30
- Fast & Furious (PG-13) 5:30,11:00

LANDMARK CENTURY CENTRE CINEMA (LANDMARK)

2828 North Clark St., Chicago
(773) 509-4949

- Merry Gent (R) 2:10,4:50,7:30,10:10
- Is Anybody (PG-13) 2:00,4:20,7:05,9:30
- Lemon Tree (NR) 1:40,4:10,7:00,9:40
- Lymelife (R) 2:05,4:30,7:25,9:55
- Paris 36 (NR) 1:45,4:35,7:20,10:00
- Sunshine Clean (R) 1:30,4:00,10:00
- Sin Nombre (R) 1:55,4:40,7:10,9:50

CITY NORTH 14 (KERASOTES)

2600 N. Western Ave.
(800) 326-3264 #1642

- Dr. Laura Live! (NR) ★ 7:00 P.M.
- X-Men Origins (PG-13) ★ 10:45,11:15,12:30,1:00,1:30,2:00,3:15,3:45,4:15,4:45,6:05,6:30,7:00,7:30,8:45,9:15,9:45,10:15
- X-Men Origins (PG-13) ★ (Closed caption) 11:45,2:30,5:15,8:00,10:45
- Terra 3D (PG) ★ 10:20,12:40,3:00,5:20,7:40,10:00
- Obsessed (PG-13) ★ 10:00,12:50,1:20,3:30,4:10,6:15,7:10,9:00,9:50
- Fighting (PG-13) ★ 11:30,2:15,5:00,7:50,10:30
- Earth (G) ★ 11:20,1:50,4:20,6:40,9:10
- 17 Again (PG-13) 11:00,1:40,4:30,7:15,9:55
- Hannah Montana (G) 9:50 A.M. ;
- Hannah Montana (G) 12:15 P.M.
- Fast & Furious (PG-13) 2:45,10:15
- Monsters (PG) 10:50,1:10,4:00,6:20,8:50
- I Love You, Man (R) 11:50,2:20,4:50,7:20,10:10

DAVIS THEATRE (VALUE)

4614 N. Lincoln Ave., Chicago
(773) 784-0893

- The Soloist (PG-13) ★ 5:00,7:30,9:50
- X-Men Origins (PG-13) ★ 5:30,7:45,10:00
- Fighting (PG-13) ★ 5:10,7:40,10:00
- Adventureland (R) 5:15,9:45
- State of Play (PG-13) 7:30 P.M.

FORD CITY 14 (AMC)

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- Ghosts-Girlfrnd (PG-13) 2:20,4:50,7:15,9:35
- X-Men Origins (PG-13) 1:30,2:15,3:10,4:15,5:10,6:10,7:00,8:10,9:00,9:45
- Fighting (PG-13) 2:10,4:45,7:25,9:50
- Obsessed (PG-13) 1:35,2:30,3:20,4:30,5:20,6:15,7:30,8:10,8:50,9:55
- The Soloist (PG-13) 1:40,4:20,7:10,9:40
- Earth (G) 1:30,3:35,5:50,7:55,10:00
- 17 Again (PG-13) 1:45,4:10,6:50,9:15
- Fast & Furious (PG-13) 2:40,5:15,7:40,10:00
- Monsters vs. (PG) 2:00,4:25,6:40,9:10
- AMC Select Sin Nombre (R) 1:50,4:40,7:20,9:55

GENE SISKEL FILM CENTER

164 State Street
312-846-2800

Site Sings (NR) 6:00,7:45

LOGAN THEATRE

2646 N. Milwaukee Ave., Chicago
(773) 252-0628

- Monsters vs. (PG) 2:05,4:05,6:05,8:10
- Fast & Furious (PG-13) 2:00,4:05,6:15,8:20
- I Love You, Man (R) 2:10,4:15,6:20,8:30
- Knowing (PG-13) 2:00,4:10,6:20,8:40

MUSIC BOX

3733 N. Southport, Chicago
(773) 871-6604

- Anvil! Story (NR) 5:30,7:30,9:40
- Z (PG) 4:30,7:00,9:30

PIPERS ALLEY (AMC)

1608 N. Wells, Chicago
888-AMC-4FUN
Show times change daily

- AMC Select Tyson (R) 3:40,5:55,8:15
- AMC Select The Informers (R) 4:40,7:00
- Valentino (NR) 3:30,5:45,8:00
- AMC Select Sugar (R) 1:55,4:30,7:15

RIVER EAST 21 (AMC)

322 E. Illinois Street
888-AMC-4FUN
Show times change daily

AMC Select - The best specialty films

- Dr. Laura Live! (NR) 7:00 P.M.
- Ghosts-Girlfrnd (PG-13) 2:10,3:10,4:45,5:45,7:40,8:40,10:25
- X-Men Origins (PG-13) 1:00,1:30,2:00,2:30,3:00,4:00,4:30,5:00,5:30,6:00,7:00,7:30,8:00,8:30,9:00,10:00,10:30
- AMC Select Is Anybody (PG-13) 1:50,4:35,7:10,9:40
- Fighting (PG-13) 1:35,4:25,7:00,9:45
- Obsessed (PG-13) 1:20,2:20,4:20,7:20,9:20,10:20
- The Soloist (PG-13) 1:45,2:45,4:50,5:45,7:45,8:45,10:40
- Earth (G) 1:30,2:55,5:25,8:05,10:25
- State of Play (PG-13) 1:15,2:15,8:10,10:15
- 17 Again (PG-13) 1:40,4:15,7:05,9:50
- Crank: High (R) 1:25,6:35
- Fast & Furious (PG-13) 5:10 P.M.
- AMC Select Adventureland (R) 4:05,6:40,9:20
- Monsters (PG) ★ 3:05,5:35,8:15,10:35
- I Love You, Man (R) 2:25,5:05,7:50,10:30
- Knowing (PG-13) 3:45,8:55

CROWN VILLAGE 18 (KERASOTES)

7000 Carpenter Rd., Skokie
(800) 326-3264 #2309

- X-Men Origins (PG-13) ★ 12:30,1:00,1:30,2:00,2:30,3:15,3:45,4:15,4:45,5:15,6:05,6:30,7:00,7:30,8:00,8:45,9:15,9:45,10:15,10:45
- Ghosts-Girlfrnd (PG-13) ★ 12:20,1:50,3:20,4:20,6:15,7:15,8:50,9:40
- Terra 3D (PG) ★ 12:40,2:50,5:00,7:10,9:20
- The Soloist (PG-13) ★ 12:45,1:40,3:30,4:30,6:20,7:20,9:10,10:10
- Obsessed (PG-13) ★ 1:10,2:10,4:00,4:50,6:40,7:45,9:30,10:20
- Fighting (PG-13) ★ 2:20,5:10,7:50,10:30

(continued)

G - General audience PG - Parental guidance suggested
PG-13 - Parents strongly cautioned. Some material may be inappropriate for children under 13
R - Restricted, under 17 requires accompanying parent or adult guardian
NC-17 - No one 17 and under admitted

CROWN VILLAGE 18 (KERASOTES) (continued)

- Earth (G) ★ 1:15,3:50,6:10,8:30
- State of Play (PG-13) 12:50,3:40,6:45,9:55
- 17 Again (PG-13) 2:40,5:20,8:10,10:40
- Fast & Furious (PG-13) 1:20,4:10,6:50,9:50
- Monsters (PG) 2:15,4:40,7:40,10:00

WEBSTER PLACE (KERASOTES)

1471 W. Webster Ave., Chicago
(800) 326-3264 #1641

- Dr. Laura Live! (NR) ★ 7:00 P.M.
- X-Men Origins (PG-13) ★ 10:45,11:15,1:30,2:00,4:15,4:45,7:00,7:30,9:45,10:15 ;
- X-Men Origins (PG-13) ★ ♦ 10:15,1:00,3:45,6:30,9:15
- Ghosts-Girlfrnd (PG-13) ★ 11:45,12:50,2:20,3:20,4:50,6:10,7:20,8:45,9:50
- The Soloist (PG-13) ★ 10:10,12:40,1:40,3:30,4:30,7:40,9:10,10:20
- State of Play (PG-13) 10:00,1:10,4:10,7:10,10:10
- 17 Again (PG-13) 10:30,1:20,4:00,6:40,9:20
- Adventureland (R) 11:30,2:10,5:00,7:50,10:30
- I Love You, Man (R) 11:00,1:50,4:20,6:50,9:30

SHOWPLACE 14 - GALEWOOD CROSSINGS (KERASOTES)

E. Side of Central Ave., just S. of Grand Ave.
(800) 326-3264 #1646

- X-Men Origins (PG-13) 1:00,1:30,2:00,2:30,3:45,4:15,4:45,5:15,6:30,7:00,7:30,8:00,9:15,9:45,10:15,10:45
- Battle (PG) 1:45,4:00,6:45,9:10
- The Soloist (PG-13) 2:20,5:00,7:40,10:20
- Obsessed (PG-13) 12:50,1:50,3:40,4:40,6:20,7:20,9:20,10:00
- Fighting (PG-13) 12:40,3:30
- Earth (G) 2:15,4:30,6:50,9:20
- 17 Again (PG-13) 2:40,5:10,7:45,10:10
- Hannah Montana (G) 2:50,5:20
- Fast & Furious (PG-13) 7:50,10:30
- Monsters (PG) 1:15,3:50,6:15,8:50

CICERO SHOWPLACE 14 (KERASOTES)

4779 W. Cermak
(800) 326-3264 #1644

- X-Men Origins (PG-13) ★ 1:00,1:30,2:00,2:30,3:45,4:15,4:45,5:15,6:30,7:00,7:30,8:00,9:15,9:45,10:15,10:45
- Ghosts-Girlfrnd (PG-13) ★ 2:10,4:50,7:15,9:50

(continued)

CICERO SHOWPLACE 14 (KERASOTES) (continued)

- Battle (PG) ★ 1:45,4:00,6:45,9:10
- Sin Nombre (R) ★ 2:50,5:20,7:50,10:10
- The Soloist (PG-13) ★ 2:20,5:00,7:40,10:20
- Obsessed (PG-13) ★ 12:50,1:50,3:40,4:40,6:20,7:20,9:00,10:00
- Fighting (PG-13) ★ 12:40,3:30,6:40,9:30
- Earth (G) ★ 2:15,4:30,6:50,9:20
- 17 Again (PG-13) 2:40,5:10,7:45,10:30
- Monsters (PG) 1:15,3:50,6:15,8:50

OAK PARK LAKE CINEMAS (CLASSIC)

1022 Lake Street
630-444-FILM #560

- X-Men Origins (PG-13) 12:20,1:25,2:45,3:50,5:10,6:15,7:35,8:40,10:00
- The Soloist (PG-13) 11:45,2:15,4:50,7:25,10:00
- Earth (G) 12:30,2:35,4:40,6:45,8:50
- 17 Again (PG-13) 12:00,2:20,4:40,7:00,9:20
- State of Play (PG-13) 1:20,4:05,6:50,9:35
- Monsters (PG) 12:00,2:10,4:20,6:30,8:40

EVANSTON CENTURY 12/CINEARTS 6 (CENTURY)

1715 MAPLE AVE.
(847)492-0123 ♿

- Battle (PG) ★ 12:00,2:15,4:40,7:00,9:20
- Dr. Laura Live! (NR) ★ 7:00
- Fighting (PG-13) ★ 11:30,2:00,4:25,7:00,9:30
- Ghosts-Girlfrnd (PG-13) ★ 11:50,12:55,2:25,3:25,4:55,5:55,7:20,8:25,10:05
- Is Anybody (PG-13) ★ 12:05,2:30,4:55,7:20,9:45
- Merry Gent (R) ★ 12:10,2:40,5:10,7:40,10:10
- Tyson (R) ★ 12:45,3:05,5:25,7:45,10:10
- X-Men Origins (PG-13) ★ 11:40,12:30,1:30,2:20,3:10,4:10,5:00,5:50,6:50,7:40,8:30,9:30,10:20
- 17 Again (PG-13) 11:35,2:10,4:45,7:15,9:50
- Adventureland (R) 2:35
- Earth (G) ★ 12:10,2:30,4:50,7:10,9:35
- Fighting (PG-13) ★ 11:40,2:10,5:15,7:50,10:25
- Hannah Montana (G) 11:55
- Monsters (PG) 12:20,2:45,5:05,7:35,10:00
- Obsessed (PG-13) ★ 11:45,2:30,5:10,7:50,10:30
- State of Play (PG-13) 1:10,4:10,7:30,10:30
- The Soloist (PG-13) ★ 1:20,4:20,7:10,10:00

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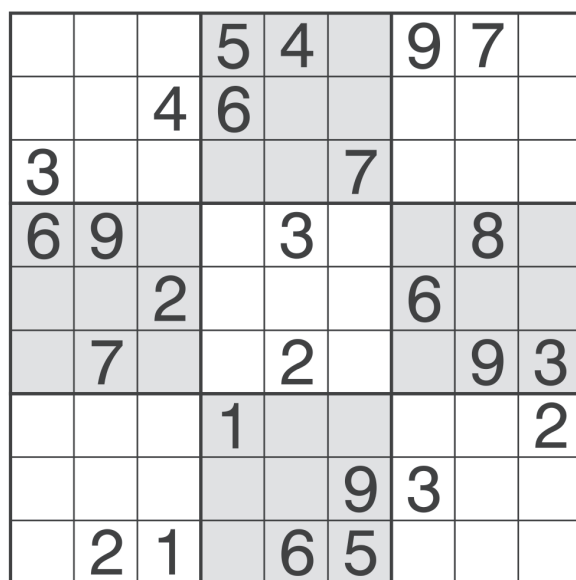


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6	5	4	9	7	2	3	8	1
9	2	1	8	3	6	7	4	5
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7	6	2	3	8	1	4	5	9

MONDAY'S SOLUTIONS

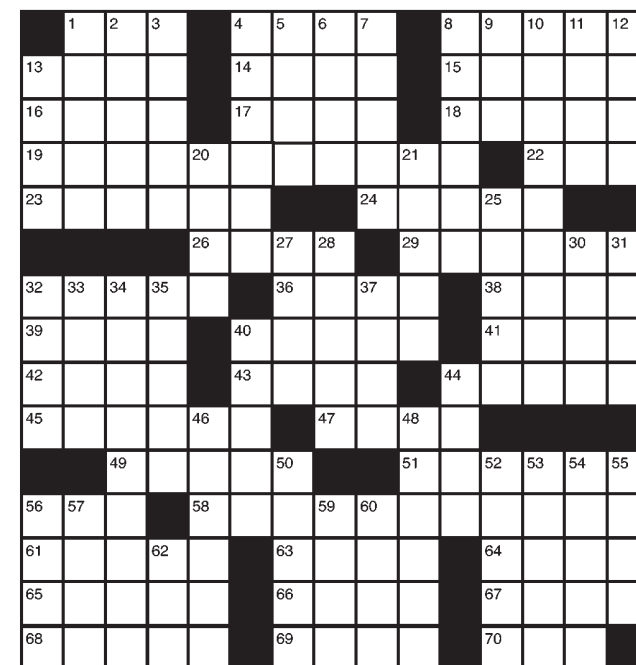
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ACROSS

- 1 Actor Marshall and others
- 4 Light bulb word
- 8 Celestial body with a tail
- 13 Letters between L & Q
- 14 Rescuer
- 15 Lasso
- 16 Hip sections
- 17 Teheran's nation
- 18 Singer/pianist John
- 19 Los Angeles suburb
- 22 High school subj.
- 23 Striped cats
- 24 Provide food for a wedding
- 26 Looked at
- 29 Death
- 32 Long stories
- 36 Tardy
- 38 Arrestee's need
- 39 Border on
- 40 Model's move
- 41 "First Lady of Jazz"
- 42 Equipment
- 43 Equestrian's control
- 44 Pyromaniac's crime
- 45 Line on a flag
- 47 Dodgers or Mets
- 49 Takes a risk
- 51 Drenches to remove soap
- 56 Mater; Mother of God
- 58 Forerunners
- 61 Separate
- 63 "So be it!"
- 64 Refuses
- 65 Ms. Zellweger
- 66 monster
- 67 Historical periods of time
- 68 Exams
- 69 Added-on structures
- 70 "Miserables"

DOWN

- 1 Zhou
- 2 On the way out
- 3 Outpouring of words



- 4 Idle notion
- 5 Prefix for gram or space
- 6 Letters before script or spire
- 7 Pick-me-up
- 8 Manufacture
- 9 Lubricate
- 10 Velvet & denim
- 11 Prestigious British school
- 12 Orange drink
- 13 Fine spray
- 20 Greek war god
- 21 Naval academy student
- 25 Glowing coal fragment
- 27 Mr. Wiesel
- 28 Anchor crane
- 30 Cylindrical storage tower
- 31 Vigor
- 32 Loses firmness
- 33 Help a thief
- 34 Protectors
- 35 Heart sections
- 37 Musical sound
- 40 Primp
- 44 Surrounded by
- 46 Chatters
- 48 Game venues
- 50 Actor's spot
- 52 Staircase post
- 53 Night noise
- 54 Lab burners
- 55 Very fast jets: abbr.
- 56 Move quickly
- 57 Fencer's sword
- 59 Actor Jannings
- 60 Tiny room
- 62 Like a prof. emeritus

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BY JIM WALSH

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this kiss, this kiss...

Which movie couple heats things up the most?

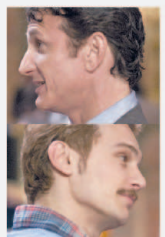
Will it be the couples from "High School Musical," "Milk," "Slumdog Millionaire" or "Twilight"? Maybe the folks from "Wanted" or "I Love You, Man" will have a shot.

Those are the people in the running for the MTV Movie Awards' prize for best kiss, the network announced Monday along with other nominations.

It's going to be a good old fashioned throw

down between Zac Efron and Vanessa Hudgens, Sean Penn and James Franco, Dev Patel and Freida Pinto, and Kristen Stewart and Robert Pattinson. Angelina Jolie and James McAvoy also are in the running along with Paul Rudd and Thomas Lennon.

So how hot, exactly, are the on-screen couples? That, ladies and gentlemen, is the reason we have the RedEye Hot-O-Meter.



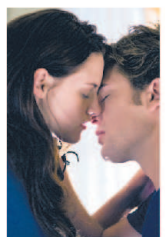
Sean Penn and James Franco

No joke: Franco's face is perfectly symmetrical. The New York Times reported that last year.



Dev Patel and Freida Pinto

Rumor has it these two lovebirds also are hooking up off-screen.



Kristen Stewart and Robert Pattinson

The forbidden vampire love thing is so 2008.



Paul Rudd and Thomas Lennon

Funny kisses do not always equal the best kisses.



Angelina Jolie and James McAvoy

She really bends his bullet. What does that even mean?



Zac Efron and Vanessa Hudgens

You know how we know they're hot kissers? They date in real life.



AND THE NOMINEES ARE ...

Andy Samberg hosts the MTV Movie Awards at 8 p.m. May 31. Here are just a few of the nominations. Fans can vote now on mtv.com.

BEST MOVIE

- » The Dark Knight
- » High School Musical 3: Senior Year
- » Iron Man
- » Slumdog Millionaire
- » Twilight

BEST FEMALE PERFORMANCE

- » Angelina Jolie—Wanted
- » Anne Hathaway—Bride Wars
- » Kate Winslet—The Reader
- » Kristen Stewart—Twilight
- » Taraji P. Henson—The Curious Case of Benjamin Button

BEST MALE PERFORMANCE

- » Christian Bale—The Dark Knight
- » Robert Downey Jr.—Iron Man
- » Shia LaBeouf—Eagle Eye
- » Vin Diesel—Fast & Furious
- » Zac Efron—High School Musical 3: Senior Year



THE QUICK & DIRTY

- » Eminem recounts drug addiction in Vibe interview
- » Variety: 3rd season of 'Mad Men' due in August
- » Former Wilco band member sues Jeff Tweedy

- » Coldplay: No comment after another plagiarism accusation
- » 2 injured on NYC set of Nicolas Cage movie
- » Dennis Rodman to enter rehab
- » Lawyers: Despite drinking report, David Hasselhoff is fine



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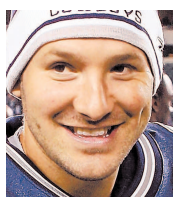
Sing shot

Denise Richards says she will never sing in public again. Thank. Goodness. Richards' tone-deaf rendition of "Take Me Out to the Ball Game" at Wrigley Field on Friday quickly made the rounds online. "Horrifying," Richards told The Palm Beach Post. "I'm not a singer and then to be in front of all those people is a little terrifying." Here's a look at some other famous seventh-inning stretch flubs.



Ozzy Osbourne
Prince of Darkness,
Aug. 17, 2003

We remember it, but does he?



Tony Romo
Dallas Cowboys
quarterback,
May 11, 2008

Jessica doesn't throw footballs, Tony shouldn't sing. Actually, Jessica shouldn't sing either.



Barney
Purple dinosaur,
July 17, 2001
Stuuuuu-pendous? Not so much.



Denise Richards sings "Take Me Out to the Ball Game" on Friday. PHIL VELASQUEZ/TRIBUNE

THE VELVET ROPE

Beauty queen

Jessica Biel is joining the fabulous faces of Revlon. The company has named her its newest Global Brand Ambassador, according to **people.com**. She'll participate in philanthropic activities and fundraising as well as star in international print and broadcast campaigns in 2010.

'Cleveland' confidential

OK, now we're really interested in "Cleveland," the "Family Guy" spinoff. According to The Hollywood Reporter, Fox has ordered another 13 episodes for the cartoon, which was slated for a spring debut but has been bumped back to the fall. That means the network has ordered 35 eps for a show that hasn't even aired yet.

Oprah's new project

Is Jenny McCarthy going to be the next Dr. Phil—or Rachael Ray? The former Playboy model and frequent guest on Oprah Winfrey's talk show has signed a multi-platform deal, including a syndicated talk show, with the Queen of Talk's production studio, according to The Hollywood Reporter.



Sarsgaard and Gyllenhaal
GETTY IMAGES FILE

Hitched

The quintessential indie couple finally have made it official. Peter Sarsgaard and Maggie Gyllenhaal were married Saturday in Italy, Gyllenhaal's publicist told E! Online. The private ceremony was attended by about 40 quests, including Maggie's brother, Jake Gyllenhaal, and his girlfriend, Reese Witherspoon, the L.A. Times reports. The couple have been together since 2002 and have a 2-year-old daughter, Ramona.

HOT DATE

Aug. 23

That's the date Pearl Jam will perform at the United Center. Tickets go on sale to the general public on Saturday at 11 a.m. Pre-sale information is available at **pearljam.com**.

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